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1311-1313 Sartori Avenue, Torrance

LETTERS SHOWS FAVORABLE STATE OF NEARBY DISTRICT

Montebello, On a Par With Torrance in Valuation, Has Successful Local School Management

Facts and figures compiled from the records of the Los Angeles city school system were presented to the audience assembled at the Central Evangelical Guild hall Tuesday evening to discuss the proposed city charter. The figures were obtained by Chairman Charles T. Rippey, and were set out in a comparative form so that their significance could readily be absorbed. The facts were essentially the same as was set out in the report of the meeting published last week, as the discussion on this phase of the charter took practically the same general direction.

In addition to the financial side of the question, Mr. Rippey introduced two letters he had received from the authorities in charge of school districts not connected with the Los Angeles system, one of which because of its similarity to the conditions obtaining in Torrance was heard with interest. The letter, from Frank J. Dore, clerk of the Montebello school district, follows:

"Montebello, Calif.
February 20, 1932.

"Mr. Chas. T. Rippey,
"Chairman Board of Freeholders
"Torrance, Calif.
"Dear Mr. Rippey:
"In reply to your letter of recent date relative to a proposed withdrawal of the City of Torrance from the Los Angeles School District, I can assure you that as far as the Montebello School District is concerned there is no sentiment in this district favoring annexation to the Los Angeles School District.

"At the opening of school the present year we had an enrollment of approximately 2,900 pupils in nine elementary schools and 600 in the high school with a total faculty numbering 120 teachers. The total assessed valuation of the district was somewhat under \$24,000,000. If you will consult your Taxpayers' Guide for 1931 you will note that our total school tax rate is \$1.24 or \$30 under that of Los Angeles. You will also note that Montebello has the lowest school tax rate of any urban community in Los Angeles county.

"Our salary schedule in the elementary schools ranges from \$1,300 to \$2,000 for teachers and in the high school from \$1,800 to \$2,500; thus comparing favorably in salary rating with Los Angeles City. If you will make an inquiry at the office of the County Superintendent of Schools you will find that both our high and our elementary schools rank among the most efficient in the county.

"Recently when the Laguna School District, situated south of Montebello, found itself in a situation in which it was obliged to choose between annexation to Los Angeles City or to Montebello, it unanimously petitioned for annexation to Montebello, thus adding about \$6,000,000 in assessed valuation and 160 pupils to our district.

"In view of the above briefly stated conditions you will doubtless surmise that here in Montebello we are strong for running our own schools. Should you wish further information and care to make us a personal visit, I shall be glad to have our school superintendent, M. R. Jacobs, make arrangements for a conference at the office of the school board where complete information is available pertaining to the administration of the affairs of the Montebello School District.

"Very truly yours,
"FRANK J. DORE, Clerk,
"Montebello School District."

The second letter introduced by Mr. Rippey, signed by F. E. Winterton, secretary and business manager of the board of education of Pomona, contained the following paragraphs:

"1. The argument about cost of supplies is probably true of small districts, but districts as large as yours can buy at a price which will compare favorably with Los Angeles, if that city's overhead is taken into account.

"2. The smaller community has an advantage as to teacher cost, if living conditions are favorable. Many of our teachers prefer to live here and take a lower salary than they would receive in the city.

"3. Our Board has been particularly free from any political influence. It may be that this condition does not exist in all communities. I think that would depend largely upon the type of men elected to the Board, and we have been fortunate in having men of high ideals on our boards. I do not know what the conditions are in Los Angeles so far as politics are concerned, but I have in mind several large cities in the East where the schools are in the hands of politicians, and conditions could not be worse in small towns.

"As you can see from the above, I favor self-government of schools in cities large enough to systematize the purchase and distribution of supplies and equipment, and that are able to offer fair salaries, and good living conditions to employees. Other qualifications may enter into the matter from an educational or civic point of view, but as to those matters I would

not be able to give an opinion." Frank R. Leonard, city engineer and one of the members of the board of freeholders, spoke on the section of the charter relating to paving. Under the terms of the proposed charter, the property owners of Torrance are protected in their investments, in that the charter fixes a limit beyond which the total of assessments for improvements shall not extend. It provides certain conditions under which proceedings may be initiated, and bars the use of certain types of paving which exclude competition unless that type of improvement is specifically requested by the property owner affected.

Under the terms of the proposed charter, as explained by Chairman Rippey, the City of Torrance gains control of its municipal affairs. It will no longer be dependent upon the acts of a legislature meeting every two years, for the control of strictly municipal business. It establishes departments for independent municipal action. Under the proposed charter the city shall be divided into districts, from each of which a councilman shall be nominated, but all councilmen must be elected at large. The police judge shall be elected for a term of four years. The board of education shall be elected, except that the council may appoint a board to serve until the first regular election, following when their successors shall be elected by the people. The mayor shall be nominated and elected at large. He will be the presiding officer of the council, and will be responsible for carrying out the policies of that body. He will exercise a supervision over the affairs of the city and see that all departments are kept to their proper degree of efficiency.

Further explanations of the proposed charter will be brought out at the next meeting held for discussion.

Water-Soaked Rabbit Meat Sale Illegal

County Health Officer Moves to Guard Public Against Adulteration

Instituting an intensive campaign to stop the sale of water-soaked rabbit meat, county health authorities are preparing this week to prefer charges of food adulteration against several butchers in the county, according to a statement of Dr. J. L. Pomeroy, county health officer.

More than 90 per cent of the rabbit meat sold in the county contains an excess of 30 to 40 per cent added water, it was disclosed by investigations recently made by Jonathan Kirkpatrick, chief food inspector of the county health department. The practice of selling any food product containing water, the presence of which is not declared on a label, is a violation of the California Pure Food and Drug Act, Kirkpatrick points out.

Although the soaking of rabbit meat in water or allowing the meat to remain directly on ice for a period of several hours is said to be for the purpose of "washing" or changing the color of the meat from a reddish pink to a bluish-white most butchers and slaughterhouse operators admitted the knowledge that a rabbit will soak up from one-fourth to one-third of its weight in water, Kirkpatrick says.

Rabbit dealers and slaughterhouse operators were notified thirty days ago to revise methods of retailing rabbit meat, Kirkpatrick states.

"The public cannot afford, especially during the present period of economic stress, to pay such a high percentage of the food dollar for water," said Dr. Pomeroy.

Aged Woman Taken By Death

Funeral services for Mrs. Opa Ann Stephens, aged 71, who passed away at Downey February 17, were held from Stone & Myers chapel Saturday afternoon. Rev. John Miller of the Harbor City Methodist church officiated. Interment was made at Roosevelt Memorial Park. Mrs. Stephens leaves four sons, residing in the east, and two daughters, Mrs. W. C. Chauncey and Mrs. R. L. Butler, both of Harbor City.

Rev. G. D. Wonder of Central church in Berkeley this week attending the Interdenominational Pastors' Conference which is in session at this time.

State Picnics

KANSAS

All who ever lived in Kansas are called to meet for a great picnic reunion, all day Thursday, March 3, 1932, in Long Beach, in the new Municipal Auditorium on the new pier.

PENNSYLVANIA

All who ever lived in the Keystone state are invited to a great picnic all day Saturday, March 5th, in Sycamore Grove Park. Go early and spend the day with friends. There will be county regattas and headquarters so all can find the old neighbors even with thousands present.

INDIANA

The thousands of "Hoosiers" in Southern California, visiting and resident, are called to attend the semi-annual basket picnic, Sunday, February 28, at Sycamore Park, Los Angeles. Friends can locate each other by county registers which will be tacked on the spreading sycamore trees, and coffee and badges supplied for all.

Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Howland of Oakland were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Milburn Wednesday. Mrs. Howland is the niece of Mrs. Milburn and they had not seen each other for ten years.

Councilman at Hermosa Beach Shot to Death

Evidence Points to Suicide But Motive Is Unknown

James A. McMillan, member of the Hermosa Beach city council, was found dead Saturday morning with a bullet wound in his head, which evidence indicated was self-inflicted.

The body was discovered by Mr. McMillan's wife shortly before noon. He had retired the night before apparently in good health and spirits. McMillan had been an oil driller in Hermosa Beach, but retired about six years ago. He was elected to the city council where he served, as chairman of the police commission.

Flesh Torn In Wringer Mishap

Mrs. Ang Sharp, residing on Torrance boulevard, was treated at the Jared Sidney Torrance Memorial hospital for a lacerated palm, which required some stitches. Mrs. Sharp had her hand caught in a wringer with the result that the flesh of her palm was badly torn.

SMITH'S FOOD MARKETS

No. 1 Market, Sartori Ave., Opposite Woolworth's
No. 2 Market, 1639 Cabrillo, in Continental Store

Independent Cash Markets That Sell for Less

Feature Prices for Friday and Saturday

POT ROAST lb. 12 1/2c
Choice Steer Beef

Pork Roast lb. 12 1/2c
Eastern Pork

CRISCO 2 lbs. 33c

Hams 15 1/2c
Wilson's Certified, Half or Whole Pound

CONTINENTAL STORES

Two Torrance Stores:— 1639 Cabrillo Ave. and 2223 Torrance Blvd.

PRICES EFFECTIVE FEB. 25 TO MARCH 2, INCLUSIVE

White King 25c
Granulated Soap Powder Large Pkg.

With Purchase of Two-In-One Shoe Polish
FREE KITES While Each Purchase

Canned Foods

Large No. 2 1/2 cans

Tomatoes

Sauerkraut

HOMINY

No. 2 cans

String Beans

CORN

B & M

Kidney Beans

No. 1 cans

Seaside

Lima Beans

and all varieties of

Heinz Baked Beans

Small Size

Your Choice

3 cans 25c

DEL MONTE
Coffee lb. 29c

Crisco

1-lb. can 20c
3-lb. can 57c

The Mellow'd Coffee
Coffee lb. 32c

QUAKER OATS

2 Reg. 12c packages 19c

VITAMONT DOG FOOD

3 cans 23c

Blue Ribbon Malt
3-lb. can 39c

N. B. C. Assorted
Chocolate Cakes
1-lb. val., 30c—and
Shredded Wheat
1 pkg., val., 10c

Both for **29c**
Lifebuoy Soap 2 cakes 13c

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4.50-21	4.37	8.46	5.43	10.54	1.03
4.75-19	5.12	9.94	6.33	12.32	1.17
4.75-20	5.20	10.08	6.43	12.48	1.02
5.00-19	5.39	10.46	6.65	12.90	1.30
5.00-20	5.45	10.58	6.75	13.10	1.33
5.00-21	5.72	11.12	6.98	13.54	1.43

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New League On Record Against All Bond Issues

Taxpayers of Wilmington who attended an organization meeting Tuesday night in that city to elect officers and adopt by-laws in the Taxpayers and Voters League which is attracting widespread attention in the district, went on record as being opposed to any further exploitation of the property holder under the guise of public improvements.

Resolutions pledging the members to refuse to support or vote for any more bonds for any purpose were adopted by practically a unanimous vote.

The resolutions, three in number, were as follows:

"RESOLVED: That the Taxpayers League of Wilmington will not support nor vote for any more bonds for any purpose, neither will we sign up for any special assessments of any kind until we obtain the tax reduction we demand.

"RESOLVED: That the Board of Supervisors be requested to send this tax reduction league a list of the institutions other than governmental ones, which are receiving a yearly subsidy from the county.

"RESOLVED: That a committee of three be appointed to investigate the cost of lighting the streets and roads of this city and county."

Earn

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